

Frosted Text

by Graheme Wilson
© 2013

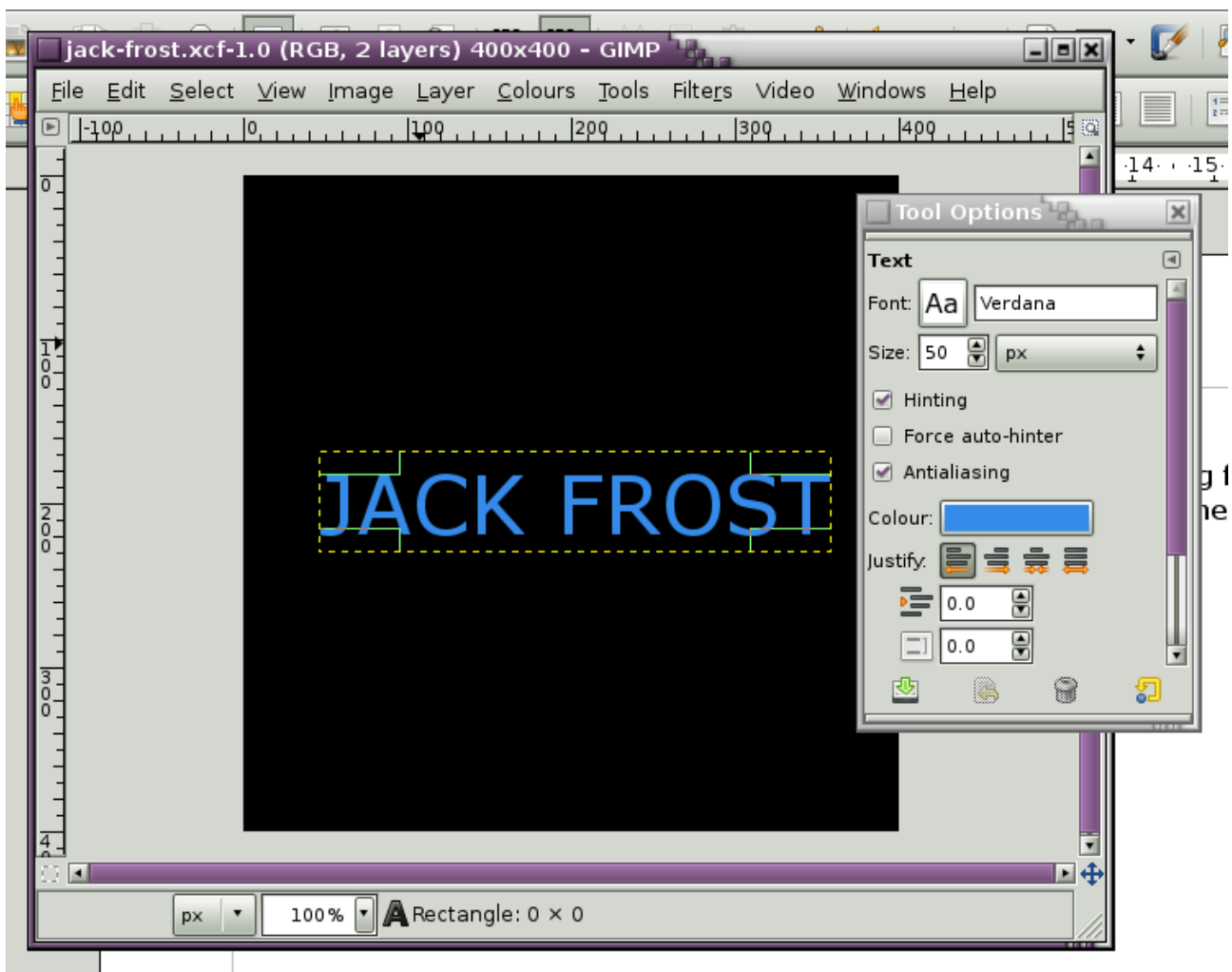
This is my GIMP tutorial based on a version I found in a copy of a Mac magazine for Photoshop.

In this tutorial you will create a piece of text that has a frosted look to it. It is simple to achieve this effect. You will learn how to use layers, filters and select tool options. I can't wait to get started, ready?

Start with a square canvas. I have created mine to be 400px square.

Paint the canvas black.

Choose a blue for the text, I am using 358be9



Here I have selected my font and the size.

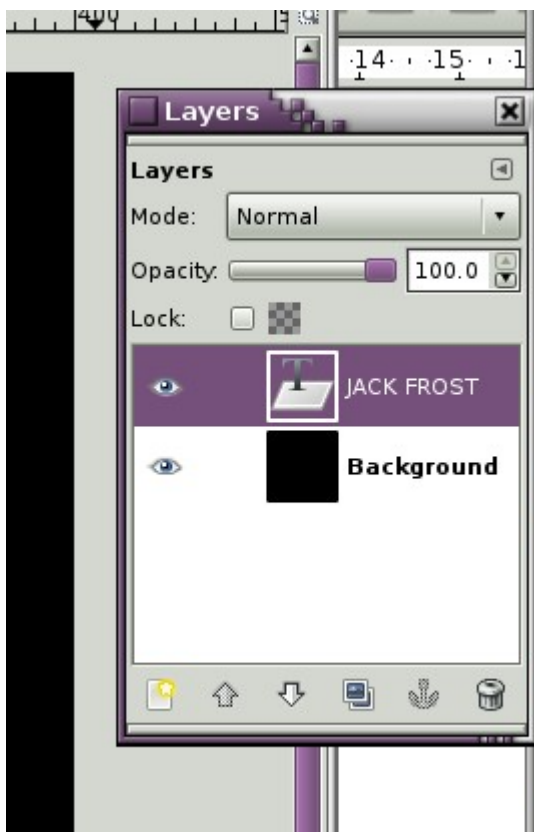
The next step is to flatten the image.

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Bring up the layers window with :

Windows->Dockable Dialogs->Layers



Select the text layer

Press your right mouse button and a menu appears. Right at the bottom of the menu Select

Flatten Image

There will now only be one layer with the text on the black background.

Now to add some frost.

We need to rotate the canvas, use

Layer->Transform->Rotate 90 clockwise

We will use the wind filter next, it is

Filters->Distorts-Wind

Make sure the preview button is ticked so you can see the effect of the your

settings.

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Here are the settings I like. Experiment with the strength and threshold to get the effect that you want.

Now we are ready to rotate the image back to the right. We do this with

Layer->Transform->Rotate 90 anticlockwise

I want to soften the image a little as it seems harsh

I use a filter. Select it with

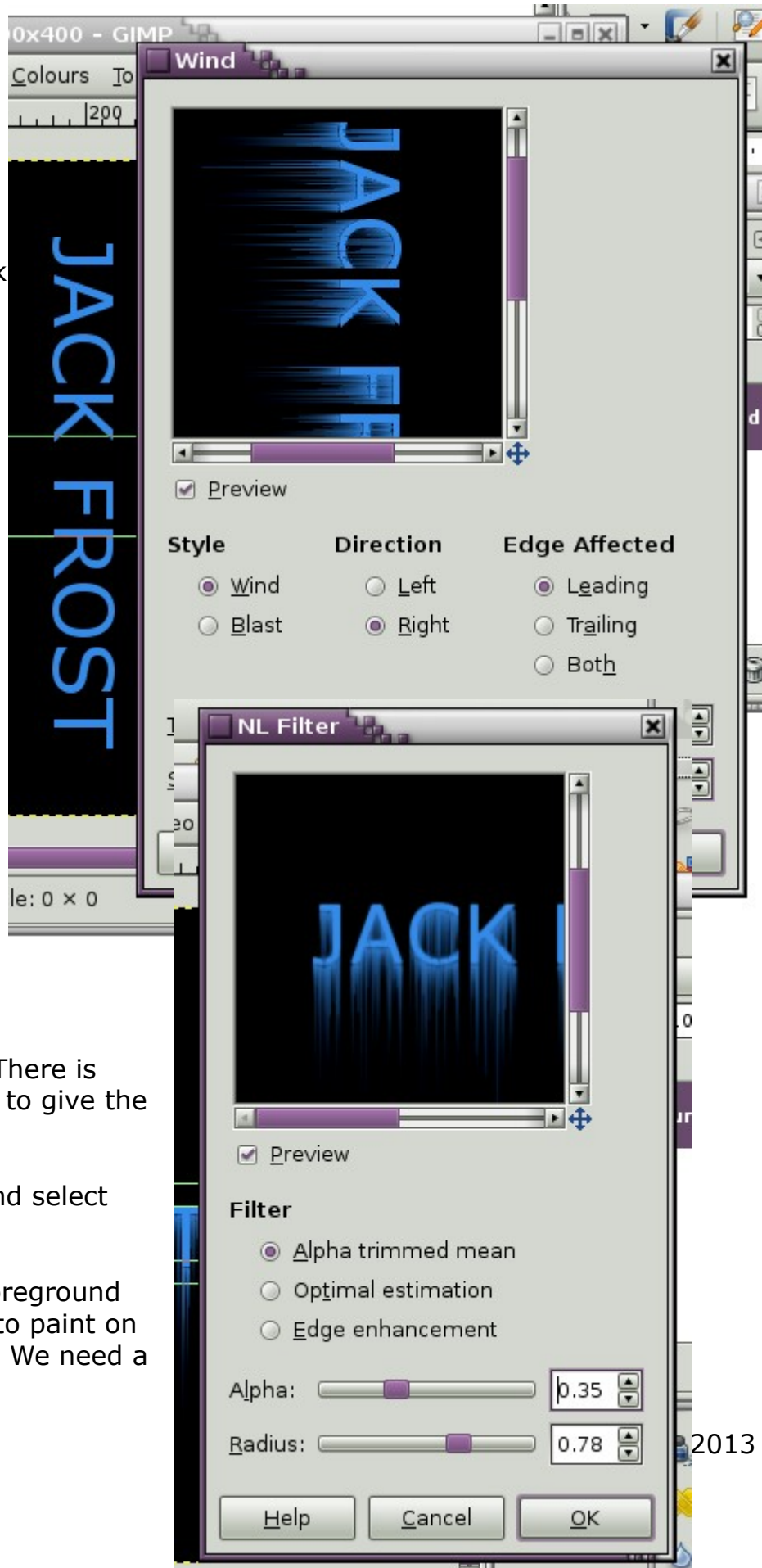
Filters->Enhance->NL Filter.

These are my settings. Experiment to suit your tastes.

We are nearly done. There is something we can do to give the image a shimmer.

Create a new layer and select transparent.

Select white as the foreground colour. We are going to paint on the transparent layer. We need a



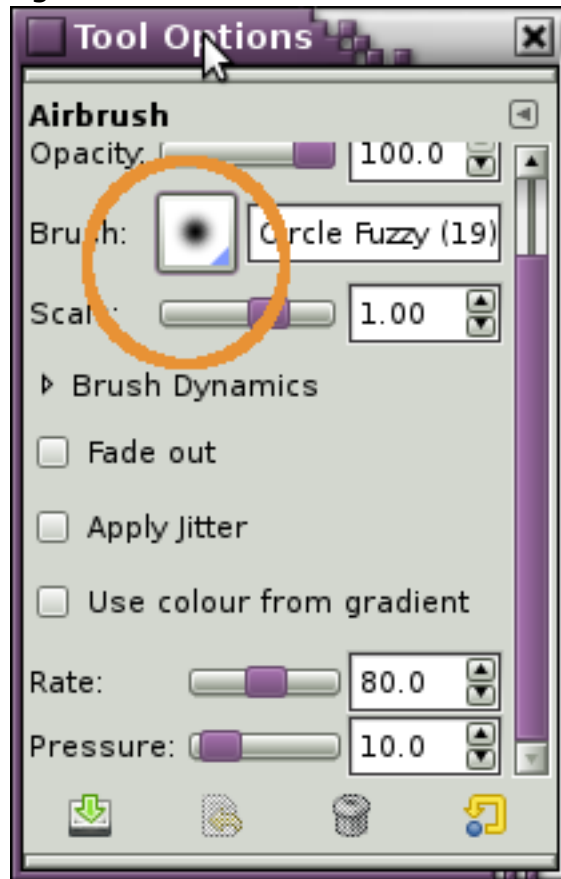
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large spray brush for this.



Select the spray brush and choose a brush size. Double click on the spray brush tool and a tool options box appears. Double click where I have circled to choose a good brush.



Now paint zig-zag or some other pattern on the transparent layer with the white brush. Then set the transparent layer to overlay.

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Here is my final result. Just in time for the winter!